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Department of Energy  
Strategic Petroleum Reserve Project Management Office  
900 Commerce Road East  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70123  
ESH-2975

August 28, 1984

Mr. Samuel L. Nott  
Chief, Superfund Branch  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region VI  
InterFirst Two Building  
1201 Elm Street  
Dallas, Texas 75270

Dear Mr. Nott:

COMPREHENSIVE ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE, COMPENSATION AND LIABILITY  
ACT OF 1980 (CERCLA)

We are in receipt of your letter dated August 20, 1984, regarding compliance with the above subject Act. Several questions were raised in the letter which we have endeavored to respond to below. First, let me assure you that the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) has a strong commitment to compliance with the spirit and intent of CERCLA.

Information that fully explains the Department of Energy (DOE) site assessment and cleanup program is not yet available from DOE Headquarters. Inquiries regarding this program should be addressed to DOE Headquarters in Washington, D.C. to the attention of Mr. D.E. Patterson, FTS 233-5137.

The information on the Bryan Mound facility requested in your May 18, 1984, letter will be submitted to your office by mid October 1984. The report will include the results of the samples collected and analyzed. We envision that, based upon the evidence presented in the report, a decision will be made as to whether further action is required and, if it is, a strategy will be devised in consultation with your office on appropriate follow on actions.

Based on a conversation with Mr. Larry Wright of your office we were advised that West Hackberry is on the ERRIS list. We previously were unaware that the West Hackberry site is of special interest to your office. In order to effectively plan for an initial assessment, we would appreciate receiving whatever information you have on the potential for hazardous wastes being stored at this site or any other SPR site for that matter.

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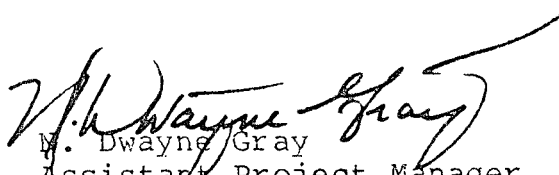


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Based on the new information provided in your letter, there is a strong possibility that an initial assessment will be performed for the West Hackberry site, however an exact date cannot be given pending promulgation of DOE guidance on compliance with CERCLA. Any guidance your office can provide on performing initial assessment tasks will be appreciated. We take note of your desired completion date of September 1986.

We trust this information responds to the questions raised in your letter. Should you have any questions regarding this matter please contact Melissa Smith at FTS 686-4387.

Sincerely,

  
M. Dwayne Gray  
Assistant Project Manager  
Technical Assurance

cc: D.E. Patterson, PE-24  
D.R. Sheppard, PE-241